

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Overview of main development results in Palestinian Territories in 2014

Summary Multi Annual Strategic Plan (MASP)

The Netherlands encourages and supports progress in the Middle East Peace Process by political and developmental means, assisting Palestinian state-building and socioeconomic development. Currently the Dutch development programme in the Palestinian Territories focuses on three key sectors where the Netherlands has proven added value: security and the rule of law, food security and water. The Netherlands also has a substantial human rights programme and is an UNWRA core donor. Finally, it promotes Palestinian private sector development and supports culture and sports activities. Gender perspectives are an integral component of the programme wwacross all these sectors.

Priority themes

- Security and rule of law
- Food security
- Water

Embassy contribution to changes at country level

Under the Dutch-funded UNDP / UN Women Stengthening the Rule of Law programme, more than 14,000 Palestinians, 8,400 of them women, benefited from legal representation and counseling provided by civil society partners.

NL funded a mapping exercise by the Office of the Quartet on movement and access of the Civil Police in Areas A, B and C and security coordination between Palestinian and Israeli security forces. Based on this information, Israel relaxed PCP coordination requirements and restrictions on movement.

The high value crops (HVC) and buffer zone projects expanded the areas cultivated with HVC- and GLOBALGAP-certified crops by 366 and 317 hectares respectively. The Land and Water Resource Management (LWRM) programme expanded the areas used for agriculture by 112 hectares in 2014.

The HVC and buffer zone projects yielded 34,400 tons of high quality produce, including 22,900 tons of GLOBALGAP-certified fruit, vegetables and herbs. Productivity rose to 98.4 tons per ha in 2014. The LWRM programme produced 10,500 tons of vegetables; productivity was 94 ton per ha in 2014.

The feasibility study prepared within the cross-border wastewater project successfully maintained political momentum for Israeli-Palestinian cooperation on wastewater management, and improved the chance of a transboundary agreement for Baqa Al Sharqiya and Nazlat.

Repairing the infrastructure damaged during the 2014 war has not only increased the amount of water available per capita but also helped prevent incidents of cross-contamination. So far, with funding from the World Bank Trust, 100,000 people have been provided with access to improved water sources.

Clarifications of results achieved

Although major results were achieved on rule of law, progress still falls short on the adoption and amendment of crucial laws, on e.g. judicial authorities, penal law, juvenile justice, police law and family protection.

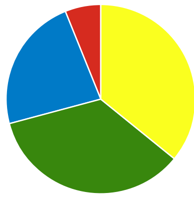
The war in summer 2014 impeded implementation of the rule of law and food security programmes in Gaza. Despite progress, results in the agricultural sector could have been better, but Israeli confiscations, stop-work orders and permit delays in Area C forced a halt to some activities.

Implications for planning

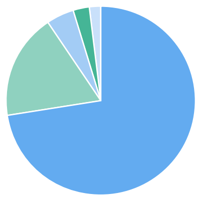
NL has stepped up discussions with RoL donors on engaging with the Palestinian Authorities on critical PA legislation. More funding to rule of law and food security programs responded to the impact of the Gaza war. NL will continue to strive for more predictable and sustainable exports from Gaza.

Expenditures 2014 per theme

Total expenditure Embassy €16,758,000



Expenditures 2014 per channel



Developments in Palestinian Territories

On track — Progress, but not on track — No progress

- Clearer mandates, roles and responsibilities for the three key judicial institutions
- Increased satisfaction of Palestinian citizens with the performance of the Palestinian Civil Police (PCP)
- A sustainable increase in food production through expansion of the cultivated area
- Higher agricultural productivity (yield per hectare) of existing Palestinian farmland
- More river basins and deltas with water allocation / flow management / coastal defence plans
- A lower percentage of unaccounted for water lost in Gaza since the war in 2014